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31 March 1955

ILLEGIB

AN APPRAISAL OF THE COURSE IN WORLD COMMUNISM

This appraisal of the Office of Training's Course in World Communism, which has just been completed by the undersigned, is written partially in response to the regular request made by the Chief Instructor to all students for a critique of the course. This paper is intended simultaneously to serve the purpose of a report to the Chief, PP Staff as to the scope and content of the course from a PP point of view, and to the Chief of the International Communism Division, CI Staff from the point of view of over-all interest.

GENERAL

In general the Course in World Communism is outstanding in the manner in which it treats a basic, vitally important and complex subject, knowledge of which should be of top priority for all

The content of the course represents a searching analysis and interpretation, in condensed form, of the truly essential elements in World Communism.

The methods and techniques of instruction also are of a mature, high quality which contribute to the absorption of the subject matter, to the stimulation of interest, and to the development of insight into the objectives, intentions and methods of this major enemy. The extent and depth of coverage of the course in three weeks is remarkable. As discussed further on, it would appear highly desirable to extend this course to a considerably greater length but for the time being at least for a week longer.

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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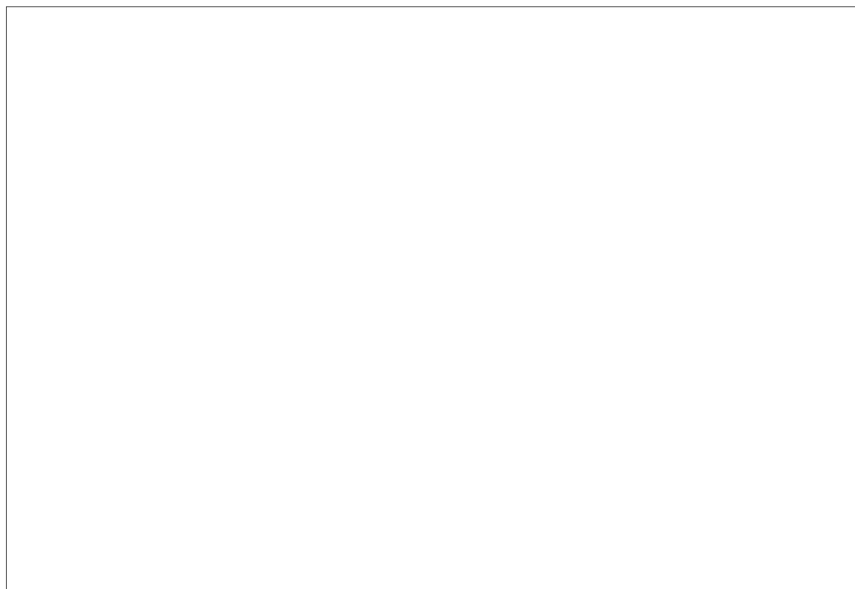
The following descriptions and comments are made with respect to the above indicated subdivisions of the course in order to bring into better focus the content, scope and significance of the subject matter covered. The total number of hours including study hours is approximately 120, not counting the additional hours necessary to complete the reading and the written assignment of this course.

1. History and Ideology -- 6 hours

This brief review of the background, development and significance of the World Communist movement is a highly concentrated reminder or "refresher" for personnel who are presumed to have acquired the fundamentals of Marxism - Leninism - Stalinism either in academic or other previous study or who have obtained at least an elementary familiarity with the subject in the "Communist Week" of the Basic Orientation Course. It does not and cannot pretend to "teach" such profound and intricate subjects as Historical and Dialectical Materialism; Thesis-Antithesis-Synthesis; the Law of the Negation of the Negation; the Bolshevik Revolution, and the world-wide objectives of Communism -- within so few hours to individuals who are unacquainted with this vast field. As a broad-brush review, this summary is very well done and sets the tone for the subsequent subject matter.

2. CP Functions, Organization and Structure -- approx. 25 hours

This part of the course, beginning with a description of the types of CP's and an analysis of the CPSU as the prototype or "model" Party organization, subsequently provides as up-to-date as possible, specific information about the following subject:

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